

HONORING SHIRLEY COELHO AND
CHERYL NIMIROSKI

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate New Hope Board Members Shirley Coelho and Cheryl Nimiroski for their many years of dedicated service to this inspiring organization. New Hope is a non-profit agency serving communities in Central and Southeastern Massachusetts that is committed to ending domestic violence by helping people live safer lives.

Ms. Coelho and Ms. Nimiroski have worked tirelessly over the past 20 and 15 years respectively to provide individuals and families with the resources they need to identify, overcome and prevent domestic violence. Not only have their efforts improved the lives of those they have worked with directly, but they have also made the lives of countless individuals in their greater communities safer.

At New Hope's annual meeting on October 29, 2009, Shirley and Cheryl were specially honored with the creation of the "Coelho-Nimiroski Volunteer of the Year Award" which will be awarded to an outstanding volunteer who embodies the values of and shows dedication to the mission of New Hope. The creation of this award ensures that Shirley and Cheryl's work will continue to inspire future volunteers for years to come.

Madam Speaker, domestic violence affects us all and sadly, it still exists in communities across the United States. The care, compassion and commitment to ending domestic violence shown by devoted individuals like Shirley Coelho and Cheryl Nimiroski is truly exemplary. We should all be inspired by their invaluable work.

I respectfully ask the entire U.S. House of Representatives to join me in commending Shirley Coelho and Cheryl Nimiroski for their years of service to New Hope and for their dedication to ending domestic violence.

HONORING MEL AUST OF LAKE
COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend Mel Aust, General Manager of the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District in Lake County, California. Mel is being honored this evening on the occasion of his 20th anniversary with the district.

Mel's contributions to the people of Lake County and California over the years are immeasurable. Mel was the driving force behind the water reclamation treatment plant and wastewater treatment plant to sustain build-out of the Hidden Valley Lake community. In 2001, his Community Services District helped build a ballpark at Coyote Valley Elementary School. He also secured \$250,000 in labor grants to clean up Coyote Creek, Gallagher Creek and drainage ditches throughout the Hidden Valley Lake subdivision. He played a

key role in crafting a letter that secured essential federal funding for the training and technical assistance HVLCD offers to water and wastewater systems all over California.

The list of boards and commissions on which Mel has served is equally impressive. Locally, he serves on the Lake County Business Outreach Team, the Board of Directors of the South Lake County Fire District and the Board of Directors of the Toys for Kids program. Statewide, he served on the Association of California Water Agencies Federal Affairs committee and the California Department of Water Resources Drought Preparedness Committee. Mel also serves as California's representative at the National Rural Water Association and is on NRWA's Asset Development, Legislative and Conference Committees.

Mel is known across the state for his immense knowledge of complex water issues and his public speaking ability. He frequently lobbies in Sacramento and on Capitol Hill for the Association of California Water Agencies, American Water Works Association, California Rural Water Association and National Rural Water Association. He is the go-to speaker for these organizations when needed, often speaking to audiences of thousands with ease.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to recognize Mel Aust for his many years of service to the people of California and to thank him for his many contributions on behalf of our country and our community. I am proud to call him a friend. I join his wife, Connie, and all of our colleagues in congratulating him on this milestone.

CONGRATULATING KATHLEEN
HODGES OF GARLAND'S WALNUT
GLEN ACADEMY

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, last week I visited Garland's Walnut Glen Academy to congratulate Kathleen Hodges for winning the Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Award 2008–2009. The Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Awards recognize eleven exemplary K–12 humanities teachers in the Lone Star State. The exceptional Rowlett resident stands head and shoulders above her peers for her role as a terrific humanities teacher making a difference in the lives of young Texans.

Humanities Texas, formerly the Texas Council for the Humanities, is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Humanities Texas conducts and supports public programs in history, literature, philosophy, and other humanities disciplines.

I wish my colleagues could have seen the heartwarming patriotic celebration that coincided with this wonderful announcement heralding Kathleen's accolade. On Veterans' Day, Walnut Glen Academy rolled out the red carpet for patriots young and old. The faculty and students at Walnut Glen Academy went to great lengths to stress the importance of service before self—and pointed a shining example of that—Kathleen's tireless work on behalf of young people. It was truly inspiring. Most important, Kathleen received the special recognition and her time in the sun for her tremendous achievement she so truly deserves.

After spending the day at her school, it is easy to see why Kathleen considers her proudest accomplishment the art program she has helped establish at Walnut Glen Academy. Congratulations are in order for Kathleen Hodges and the students and faculty at Walnut Glen Academy. God bless you and I salute you.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding funding received in my district as part of H.R. 2996, the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Lanana Creek Water Initiative. STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project, the City of Nacogdoches, P.O. Box 635030, Nacogdoches, Texas 75963, \$500,000 for regional detention ponds to complete a storm water mitigation initiative at Lanana Creek, Nacogdoches, Texas, which will prevent submergence of a number of bridges by keeping Lanana Creek at a low water level. This will allow for full access of emergency personnel to areas south of the North Loop 224 bridge at all times, and dealing with untenable wetland issues.

HONORING THE COAST GUARD
AND MARINE CORPS AIRCRAFT
PILOTS LOST IN CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 891, "Expressing the gratitude of the House of Representatives for the service to our Nation of the Coast Guard and Marine Corps aircraft pilots and crewmembers lost off the coast of California on October 29, 2009, and for other purposes." The safety of American citizens lies in the hands of our service men and women on a daily basis. With honor and respect our service men and women devote their lives to their duty and time and time again they prove to be faithful servants. We in the Gulf Coast region will never forget their bravery in saving 22,000+ lives during Hurricane Katrina.

On the evening of October 29, 2009, a Coast Guard C-130 aircraft with two pilots and five crewmembers on board was involved in a search and rescue mission off the coast of California. Unfortunately at the same time, a Marine Corps AH-1W Super Cobra carrying two pilots was involved in a military escort mission nearby. The two aircraft are suspected to have collided while traveling east of San Clemente Island, California. The following crew members of the Coast Guard C-130 are